NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

RONALD J. TENPAS UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

Nine Executive Drive, Fairview Heights, Illinois 62208, Telephone (618) 628-3700

For Immediate Release

FEBRUARY 11, 2005

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on February 8, 2005, **DAVID B. REDMAN**, age 42, of Olney, Illinois, was charged in a one count Indictment returned by a Federal Grand Jury sitting in Benton, Illinois.

Defendant was charged that from on or about 1999, the exact date being unknown, through on or about January 2005, in Richland County, and elsewhere in the Southern District of Illinois, REDMAN did knowingly and intentionally combine, conspire, and agree with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, to knowingly and intentionally manufacture and distribute fifty (50) grams or more of a mixture and substance containing methamphetamine, a Schedule II controlled substance, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 841(b)(1)(B); all in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 846.

REDMAN faces a penalty of 5-40 years imprisonment, a fine of up to \$2,000,000, and a term of supervised release of at least 4 years.

An indictment is a formal charge against a defendant. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proved guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury.

The case is set for trial on April 18, 2005, in United States District Court in Benton, Illinois. The defendant is currently in the custody of the United States Marshal Service. A bond hearing is scheduled for February 15, 2005 in United States District Court in Benton, Illinois.

The investigation was conducted by the Richland County Sheriff's Office, the Olney Police Department, and the Illinois State Police pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Under the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative, federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutors are working together to prosecute drug dealers, felons in possession of firearms, and criminals that use firearms to commit violent offenses or drug trafficking offenses in the Southern District of Illinois.

Both the Clay County and Richland County States Attorney's Office have assisted throughout the investigation and have prosecuted a number of individuals in related cases.

The case is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney George Norwood.